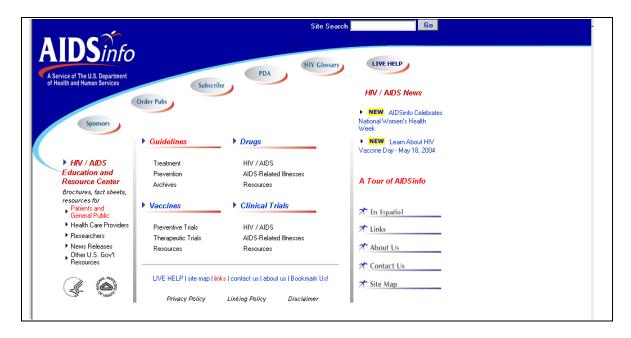
IV. AIDSinfo

http://aidsinfo.nih.gov



The mission of AIDSinfo is to offer the latest federally approved information on HIV/AIDS clinical research, treatment and prevention, and medical practice guidelines for consumers and health care providers.

- AIDSinfo is a central resource for current information on clinical trials for AIDS patients and others infected with HIV. AIDS clinical trials evaluate experimental drugs and other therapies for adults and children at all stages of HIV infection -- from patients who are HIV positive with no symptoms to those with various symptoms of AIDS.
- As the main dissemination point for HIV treatment and prevention guidelines, AIDSinfo provides information about the current treatment regimens for HIV infection and AIDS-related illnesses, including the prevention of HIV transmission from occupational exposure and motherto-child transmission during pregnancy.

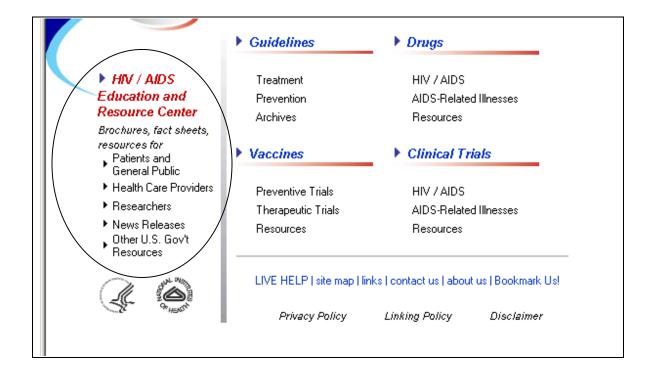
The website is organized around five main categories:

- Education and Resource Center
- Guidelines
- Drugs
- Vaccines
- Clinical Trials

Education and Resource Center

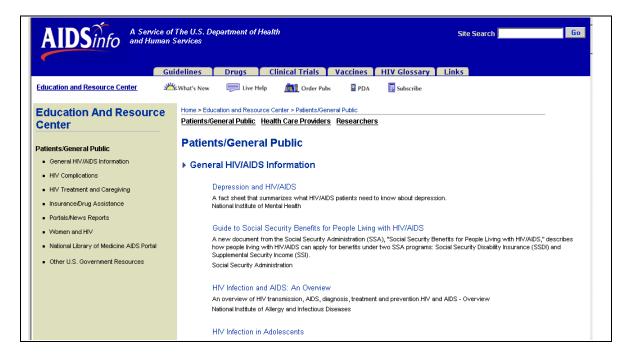
The Education and Resource Center has information for Patients and General Public, Health Care Providers, and Researchers. For the purposes of this consumer health class, we will not look at the sections for Health Care Providers and Researchers.

The link to the Education and Resource Center is at the bottom left corner of the home page:



Patients and General Public

The "Patients and General Public" link on the home page will take you to a page of fact sheets on different topics. These are links to fact sheets in other organizations' web sites (for example the Food and Drug Administration).



On the left is a table of contents listing the subject headings for the different fact sheets. All of the fact sheets are listed on the right. Clicking on the title will bring up the fact sheet in a separate window.

Clicking on a subject heading on the left will bring up a page that only has the fact sheets in that subject area.

At the end of each subject section is a link to more resources in that subject area. They are generally links to pages in MedlinePlus or other NLM databases.

One exception is the link in the content area to the National Library of Medicine AIDS Portal. This is not listed with the other portals. This is an excellent portal to other HIV/AIDS information on the Internet.



News Releases

Also in the Education and Resource Center is a link to News Releases. This is a searchable index to all HIV/AIDS-related news releases by U.S. Federal government agencies, beginning in March of 1987.



News Releases can be searched by key word or title, and they can be browsed by date, topic or agency by clicking on the appropriate link on the left.

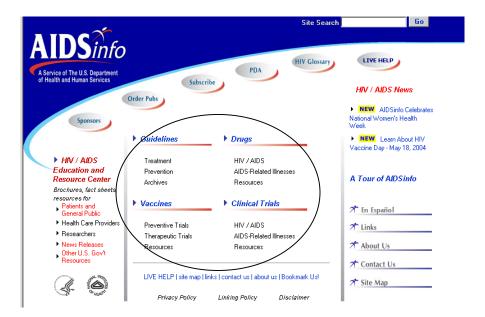
Other U.S. Government Resources

The last link in the Education and Resource Center is a link to Other U.S. Government Resources.



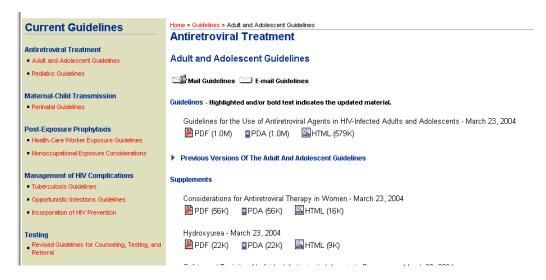
This is a list of links to HIV/AIDS information resources of nine government agencies.

Guidelines



The "Guidelines" link on the home page will take you to a listing of current guidelines that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issues for the medical management of HIV. The documents are primarily for health care providers; however patients, friends and family members are encouraged to read them and discuss them with members of their health care team.

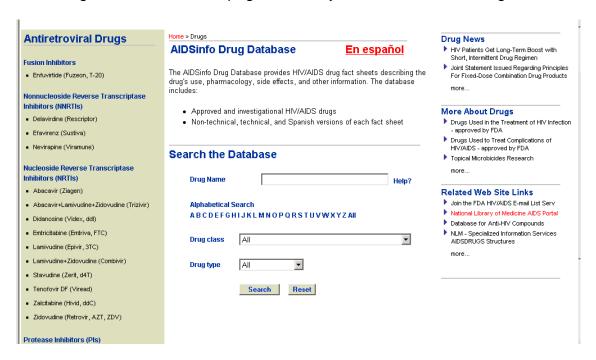
Guidelines are updated frequently. Current guidelines are shown, but previous ones are also available in the archives. Guidelines are available in PDF (Adobe Acrobat), PDA, and HTML.



You can subscribe to become a member of the e-mail listserv to receive notification when new or updated guidelines are released.

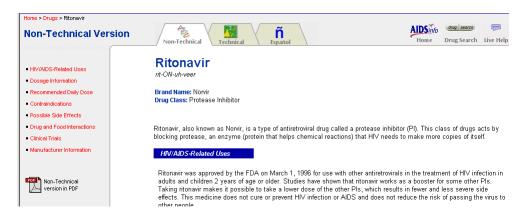
Drugs

The "Drugs" link on the home page will take you to the AIDSinfo Drug Database.



In the center is a search screen that lets you search by typing in a drug name, by browsing the drug names, or by browsing the classes or types of drugs.

Each fact sheet is available in non-technical language as well as technical. Fact sheets are in Spanish as well. Below is an example of the fact sheet. Note the tabs at the top of the sheet.



The table of contents is on the left. You can see that on the page there will be dosage information, contraindications and possible side effects, among other things.

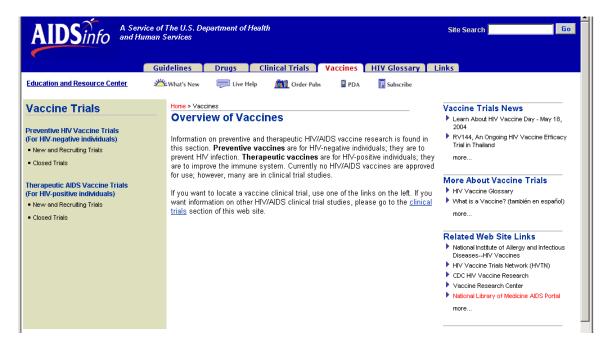
Going back to the Drug Database page, and clicking on an Antiretroviral Drug link on the left will take you to a page that gives you:

- · a brief description of the drug,
- a link to the drug record in the database, and
- links to guidelines that refer to that drug.

On the right side of the Drug Database page are further links to news and information about drugs.

Vaccines

The Vaccine link on the AIDSinfo home page will take you to the latest research information about HIV/AIDS vaccines.

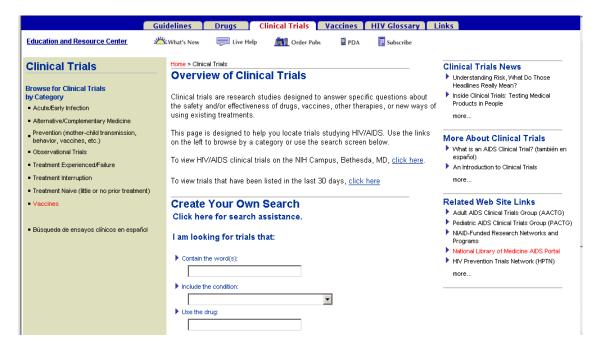


On the left side of the page are links to current clinical trials for Preventative HIV Vaccines (for HIV-negative individuals) and Therapeutic AIDS Vaccines (for HIV-positive individuals).

While there are currently no vaccines for HIV/AIDS, this page will give you the latest information on the research that is being done. The links on the right take you to the latest news about vaccines and other related information.

Clinical Trials

This section of the website is devoted to clinical trials. Clinical trials are ways to research the latest therapies for HIV/AIDS.



This web site is a way to search for clinical trials that are available and recruiting. Search boxes are available in the middle of the screen for creating your own search. The search will run in ClinicalTrials.gov.

Browsing clinical trials is also available by using the links in the box on the left side of the screen. Clicking on one of these links will run a pre-arranged search in ClinicalTrials.gov on that category of clinical trial.

On the right side of the screen are news and more information about HIV/AIDS clinical trials.

Other Resources at AIDSinfo



Across the top of the page are buttons for more resources.

Sponsors – the agencies in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that have sponsored this project (see below)

Order Pubs – this will take you to a screen where you can order publications from AIDSinfo. The publications are in English and Spanish, and are free.

Subscribe -- Subscribe to the AIDSinfo e-mail update service to receive notice of web site updates, HIV/AIDS news, and treatment guideline updates.

PDA – Drug Database information is available for PDAs. This link takes you to an interactive tutorial that helps people use this technology.

HIV Glossary – The online glossary is available in English and Spanish. It is also available as a publication, which can be ordered for free.

Links – Additional links to other government sites about Drugs, Clinical Trials, Vaccines and Guidelines.

Live Help – You can have an online conversation with a live health information specialist. While they are not substitutes for your health care provider, they can answer your questions about HIV/AIDS and help to navigate the website. This service is confidential.

AIDSinfo is U.S. Department of Health and Human Services project, sponsored by the following agencies:

National Institutes of Health
Office of AIDS Research
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Library of Medicine

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
AIDS/HIV Disease and Medicaid

Health Resources and Services Administration HIV/AIDS Bureau

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention,
Divisions of HIV/AIDS Prevention

Practice Exercises

- 1. Find a fact sheet on cocktail therapy.
- 2. What percentage of Americans think there is already a vaccine for HIV/AIDS?

3. Where can I find a clinical trial near me that is for people who do not have HIV or AIDS?